MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-First Annual Session

OF THE

North River Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Samaria Church, Walker County,

September 21st, 22nd and 23d, 1895.

OFFICERS:

W. B. APPLING, MODERATOR, ... Jasper, Ala.

J. S. WATTS, CLERK, ... Oakman, Ala.

The Next Session to be held at Jasper Church, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1896.

MOUNTAIN EAGLE PRINT, JASPER, ALA.

Order of Business.

1. Devotional Exercises
2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith, and rules of Decorum.
3. Presentation of Letters from the Churches.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite visiting ministers not delegates to seats.
7. Receive Correspondence.
8. Return Correspondence.
9. Appointment of Special Committees:
    - (1) On Religious Exercises.
    - (2) On Documents and Requests.
    - (3) On Nominations.
    - (4) On Finance.
10. Call for Report of Standing Committees:
    - (1) On Sunday Schools.
    - (2) On Temperance.
    - (3) On State Missions.
    - (4) On Home Missions.
    - (5) On Foreign Missions.
    - (6) On Denominational Education.
    - (7) On Religious Literature.
    - (8) Orphan's Home.
    - (9) On Prayer and Prayer Meetings.
    - (10) On Aged and Infirm Ministers.
11. Report of Treasurer.
12. Appoint Treasurer
13. Call for Report of Special Committee:
    - (1) On Documents and Requests.
    - (2) On Nomination.
    - (3) On Finance.
14. Call for Report of Executive Committee.
15. Appoint Standing Committees.
16. Miscellaneous Business.
17. Read Minutes, call Roll and Adjourn.

J. C. Manaers

PROCEEDINGS.

The Sixty-first Annual Session of the North River Baptist Association convened with Samaria Church on Saturday, before the fourth Sunday in September 1895.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder James Hilton.

After preaching a recess was taken for one hour.

At 1:30 o'clock p. m. the delegates reassembled and after prayer, led by Elder L. B. Harbin, was called to order by W. B. Appling, Moderator.

The Constitution was read by L. A. Morris; Articles of Faith by J. W. Rogers and the Rules of Decorum by R. M. Rice.

On motion the brethren from Providence, Zion and Coal City were received without letters.

Presentation of letters.

S. Lacy and J. H. McGuire were appointed to read the letters.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Bethabara: N H Harbin.

Bethlehem: D A Kemp, B F Baker and T W Popwell.

Bethpage: J A Dees and M Looney.

Jasper: W B Appling, G D O'Rear, S Lacy, J H McGuire, R M Hunter, J W Rogers, Wm Randolph, L A Morris, James Hilton, J F Appling, H L Watlington, J M Williams, C C Kelley, W T Walton and Ira Robins.

Mt Zion: R A Baker.

Mt Joy: H G Amerson and J M Kimbrell.

Mt Carmel: Joseph Nations, J R Sumner and J A Sumner.

New Prospect: J P Mooney, W H Redmill, Sim Richardson and L P Kiker.

Oakman: J S Watts and E S Carden.

Oregonia: R B McCord and J G Jones.

Pleasant Grove: W T Rutledge.

Providence: Jno R Sartain, E W Shepherd, J J Phifer and Robt Courrington, Jr.

Pleasant Field: J L Leonard.

Parish: J H Stephenson, J J Kirkpatric and J H Robinson.

Samaria: Thos Kirkpatric, N S Sherer, R M Rice, J B Sherer and E L Brown.

Townley: Clanton Manasco.

Union Grove: L H Baker.

Union: A Crocker and Jas M Waldrop.

Zion: L B Harbin.

The Association was permanently organized by the election (by acclamation) of W. B. Appling, Moderator, and J. S. Watts, Clerk.

Received petitionary letter and delegate from Spring Hill Church: M. C. Cranford.

Then invited visiting ministers to seats.

Return correspondence to-wit:

Tuscaloosa Association: W T Walton and L A Morris.

New River Association: L H Baker, J M Kimbrell and J H McGuire.

Clear Creek Association: J A Huggins, G D O'Rear and E L Brown.

Mud Creek Association: L B Harbin, W T Rutledge and W B Appling.

Harmony Grove Association: J W Rogers, Clanton Manasco, C C Kelley and W T Rutledge.

The following committees were announced:

On Religious Exercises: Pastor and deacons of Samaria Church and E S Carden and J L Leonard.

On Documents: J W Rogers, H L Watlington and H G Amerson.

On Nominations: J F Appling, R M Rice and W R Randolph.

On Finance: G D O'Rear, E L Brown and R A Baker.

On motion the Report on Sunday Schools was set for Sunday, 9 o'clock a. m.

On motion the Report on Temperance was set for Sunday, 2 o'clock p. m.

On motion it was ordered that all the reports on Missions be read and discussed jointly.

Report on State Missions read.

On motion the further reading of Reports on Missions was deferred till Monday.

Report on Denominational Education was read and discussed by several brethren, the further discussion was then deferred till morning.

Adjourned until Sunday morning, 9 o'clock.

SUNDAY.

MORNING SESSION.

At 9 o'clock a. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional exercises was called to order.

Report on Sunday Schools read by J. H. McGuire; after being descussed by several brethren was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, as Baptists, claim the Holy Scriptures to be the inspired word of God and "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness". (2 Tim 3 16.) Again, we are commanded—"Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have Eternal Life, and they are they which testify of me." John 5; 29. Not only so we are commanded to "Teach them diligently unto our children," etc. Deut 6; 7.

Now the question arises WHERE and WHEN can we most effectually learn and teach the Scriptures? One may say, at home around the family altar, another may say, at the regular preaching service. We grant the efficiency of both of these. But with reference to the first, it must be remembered that in many houses where dwell immortal souls to be saved, or forever lost, there is no family altar—no prayers offered, no Bible taught, no religious instruction given. In fact, in many instances, both parents and children have need alike to be taught. With reference to the second, from some cause, we know not what, the regular preaching service fails to reach the children. As a rule, they either do not attend, or take but little or no interest in the services. We conclude then there is no more suitable time and no more convenient and proper place for the church to carry out the command to search and teach the Scriptures than in our own Sabbath hours—our respective churches on the Sabbath day. Our Lord laid the example, it must be right. "As His custom was, He went into the Synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read and He closed the book and sat down and taught." Luke 4; 15, 20. Again he says, "I even taught in the Synagogue and the Temple whither the Jews always resort." John 18; 20. Does anyone doubt that children as well as men and women flocked to those services where the Lord of Heaven and earth taught as never man taught? If so, away with your doubts, for not only are they mentioned by name in reckoning the great multitudes that were fed on five loaves and two fishes (Matthew 14; 21) but the little tots became so attached to Him and interested in what He taught them that they would crowd up around Him and get in His arms (Mat 18; 2); and parents in those days seemed much more anxious about the salvation of their children than many parents seem nowadays. We have some strange experience getting children to Sunday School these days. Sometimes we get them against the absolute

protest of one or both of their parents; and sometimes, yea generally, we get them by dint of great effort through the absolute indifference of parents; and again, we get a few real missionary children, i e: the one sent by their parents to Sunday School. It was not so in the time of our Saviour. Why parents became so interested in the school he taught that they actually carried their children to Him (doubtless in their arms) that He might touch them (Mark 10; 13), and He reached out His great loving arms and took them and pressed them against His great throbbing heart and blessed them. Oh! what a teacher! Oh! what parents! Oh! what children—how blessed! Now what we want and need in the North River Association is devoted, consecrated, God-loving, God-fearing christian men and women with hearts full of love for humanity—with the Spirit of Christ in them—who, like the great and good Robert Raikes who founded modern Sunday Schools, will take it upon themselves to teach in every church the Word of Truth to our children, then but few years will roll by till the Baptists will take this field for Christ.

J H McGuire, Chairman.

Adjourned for preaching.

At 11 o'clock a Missionary Sermon was preached by R. M. Hunter to a large and attentive congregation, after which a collection was taken for missions.

LIST OF PERSONS CONTRIBUTING.

James Hilton	$ 5 00	G D O'Rear	$5 00
J H McGuire	5 00	H G Amerson	5 00
C C Kelley	10 00	W B Appling	5 00
R A Baker	5 00	L A Morris	5 00
S Lacy	2 50	Newt Richardson	1 00
D A Kemp	1 00	J R Sartain	50
A L Files	1 00	Sister Kitchens	50
Ira Robins	1 00	Mrs Garner	25
W T Walton	1 00	Wm Randolph	1 00
Prof Lamar	1 00	James Waldrop	25
H L Watlington	2 00	J M Cranford	50
R M Hunter	1 00	Mrs J M Cranford	50
W R Randolph	1 00	Miss Josie Reed	1 00
Joseph Nations	50	E S Carden	1 00
T J Amiss	1 00	R Courrington	50
James Copeland	2 00	M Looney	50
R M Rice	50	J A Douglas	50
E O'Rear	1 00	N H Harbin	2 00
J F Appling	1 00	L B Harbin	25

Amount contributed	$72 75
Then a hall collection was taken	4 35
Total collection	$77 10

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 o'clock p. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional exercises was called to order.

Report on Temperance was read and after being discussed by J. R. Sartain and others was adopted.

Then a song—"The Temperance Tide is Rising."

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, report as follows: Our preachers must preach it and act it. Our members must teach it and act it. And if we expect to succeed in doing much in stopping intemperance we must spend some money in buying and scattering literature among the people. Therefore we advise the Association to discuss and advise or adopt some plan at once to reach the masses. Our plan has been to report on intemperance and stop. But let us in the future report and work. Yes, work with our tongues, work with our money and work with the influence of all our churches. Let us all work and pray and struggle until the monster is driven from our beloved land. We could give you awful statistics of death and crime and loss of precious souls, of money and valuable grains, with the awful expense of courts, etc. But the time has come to do something. Then let us do it quickly. Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Sartain, Chairman.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock Monday morning.

MONDAY.

MORNING SESSION.

At 8 o'clock met pursuant to adjournment. After devotional exercises by L. A. Morris, was called to order.

Invited delegates who were not present on Saturday to come forward and Brother Looney came with letter from Bethpage.

Then the discussion on Denominational Education was concluded and report adopted.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Denominational Education submits the following report:

We are aware that this is a departure from our former reports this being, we believe, the first report on education with the word "Denominational" preceeding it.

We are also aware of the fact that many may criticise the name "Denominational Education" and consider it a piece of bigotry on our part as a denomination, but if we are right as a denomination, should we not only educate our children and people in the common text books and sciences of the day, but also in our moral and religious views? We think it but an obvious duty we owe

others to help teach them those denominational views we ourselves feel sure are right. And hence let us not neglect our Howard and Judson, our Southern Female University, the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., and other denominational institutions of learning throughout the state.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIFF LACY, Chairman.

On motion speeches on all questions was limited to ten minutes.

Report on Home Missions read by J. H. McGuire.

Report on Foreign Missions read by R. M. Hunter, and after discussion all the reports were adopted.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Dear brethren, we will give you a short summary on State Missions. Our peerless Board, located at Montgomery, with its officers, whose object is to send the Gospel to every home in the State, has done well. It has forty missionaries in the field. Thirteen of these are colportuers and they have this year delivered 1,132 sermons, visited 7,127 families, and baptised 337. Three hundred and thirty-nine were baptised in connection with their labors. They have sold 617 bibles for $600; they gave eighty to those who had none and were not able to buy. They have helped nineteen young men in the Howard College, who are now studying for the ministry, and six young preachers in the seminary at Louisville, Ky. They have collected, State Missions $7,748.86; Home Missions, $3,341.13; Foreign Missions, $3,828.50, besides the amounts for education, orphanage and infirm ministers. Ought we not to take a more active part in this grand work for the Master? If all would lend a helping hand, we could pay our debt and God would bless us and save the souls of our people. May God's spirit move upon this Association to do more in the support and spread of the Gospel than it has heretofore, is our prayer.

JAMES HILTON, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee have no data at hand from which to report statistics of this important work. The name of this Board is mis-leading. In our opinion, the Southern Convention should change it so as the name would suggest the field. This, however, is of minor importance. The Board has done great work in the past and it is yet doing great good and deserves to be fostered by our means equally with our State and Foreign Boards. The work done in Cuba alone is enough to commend the Home Board to our hearty support. Brethren, let us not neglect our Home Mission Board.

J. H. MCGUIRE, Chairman.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Since the adjournment of this Association, one year ago, thou-

sands of human souls have been hurled into eternity. Some are saved, but many lost. War, pestilence, famine and persecution have conspired in foreign fields to add suffering to the already miserable condition of millions of the human race. Hence how important it is that the Gospel, man's only hope and "The power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth," be carried to these dying sons of sorrow. Notwithstanding the stringency of finances, attended by the continuous howl of "hard times," God-called preachers, aided by self-sacrificing brethren at home, have gone, guided by the Holy Spirit and sustained by divine grace, into darkness, danger and death, ever having with them this blessed assurance, "I am with you always, even unto the end of world." As we have seen them go forth weeping, bearing precious seed, doubtless we shall see them come again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them.

Greater interest in missions seems to be in the hearts of the people, and a larger amount has been given to the work, and many baptisms have been reported on foreign fields. During the last year of the Southern Baptist Convention the contributions amounted to $130,000.00. This is by far the largest amount ever given to the regular work. The more light we have on this subject the greater the enthusiasm. Our objections decrease in proportion to our information. Those who read their denominational papers and mission journals are friends to missions.

Your committee would call special attention to the fact that of all the funds received into the hands of the Foreign Mission Board 92 cents on the dollar went to the missionary. Only eight cents on the dollar was used for all expenses; and this includes interest on $11,000.00 debt, also the cost of the Woman's Mission Union in Baltimore. Be it said to the praise of these noble Sisters, who are officers of the Union, that they charge nothing for their arduous, valuable services. The Sisters at the Southern Baptist Convention kindly agreed last year to try to raise $5,000 on the debt, and they more than raised that amount.

Your committee think that the Sisters of the North River Association ought to go into the Woman's Mission Union, and fall in line with the great Baptist Sisterhood, whose silent influence, like a golden guide, is destined to encompass the world. It is said of woman, "She is a link between earth and heaven. With one hand she reaches down to man, and with the other up to God." Where is the woman who will take the lead; and where are the women who will follow in this great missionary move that must evangelize the world? Let every church and every society in every church fall into rank; and let us lift high the blood-stained banner, on whose crimsoned folds is written love for a lost and ruined world.

And let us bear that standard into the thickest of the fight against every opposing foe till all the kingdoms of this world

have become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ. But to do this there must be a concensus of thought and feeling and a systematic action throughout this whole Association. Our churches will have to take up more collections and better collections. "There is that scattereth and yet it increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more that is meet, but it tendeth to poverty The liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered himself." Let us bring all of our tithes into the Lord's store-house. And if we are poor let us give even out of our abundant poverty. "For we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich." Also it is written, "He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack."

Your committee beg all the churches to arise to the high privilege which God has given them as co-laborers together with Him in the subduing of all the kingdoms of the earth and the setting up of his universal reign.

R. M. HUNTER, Chairman.

On motion five minutes rest was taken.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

Dear Brethren: In response to your request that we should treat the subject of religious literature, we beg leave to submit the following report:

1st That the question as to what kind of literature, where it has been decided that we use some kind, is of first importance. But as in many churches of our Association we have no Sunday Schools, and in many others we have only "summer times," it behooves us to ascertain why.

2nd It is our observation that the growth of Sunday Schools and the circulation of religious literature are commensurate. That where the Alabama Baptist, or some other good paper is found, along with good religious tracts and doctrinal books, the Sunday School lives all the year and the controversy about little things is forgotten. It is almost needless to say the controversy about the MANNER of doing any work, is ususlly an evidence of a disposition not to do the work at all. This is especially true in religion.

3rd That where good literature is read, the church is generally strong in the faith and alive to all church work. That is, they are full Baptists in faith, believing all the doctrines of the church. The Baptist who reads religious literature rarely seems weak on any of the doctrines of the church. Unity of faith makes unity of purpose. Unity of purpose gives concert of action and concert of action gives victory over all opposing powers of evil. Religious literature well distributed makes strong Baptists in more than the ordinary sense. Strong in the devotion of their energies, and in the concentration of their powers to mission work;

to the home work and the foreign work; strong in the Lord and in the power of his might.

4th In view of these facts, after a careful consideration of the subject in all its bearings, we think the best missionary work that can be done in this Association is the distribution of religious tracts and books of a doctrinal kind together with good religious papers—the Alabama Baptist. The bible of course, which is the source of all light and knowledge and the foundation of all true faith, should be placed in the home of every family in our Association. To this end we would advise this Association to deliberate on plans and devise means by which a copious supply of all needed literature may be placed at the disposal of all our members at the earliest possible moment.

Respectfully,

L. A. Morris, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Prayer and Prayer-meetings.

We believe that prayer is undervalued by a great many christians, and neglected by a great many more, so that the number is comparatively few who fully realize the power, and appreciate the privilege of prayer. It has been said by someone that "prayer is the new man's life."

"Long as they live should christians pray,
They learned to pray when first they lived."

There are many reasons why we should pray. It is to our highest interest to obey. He says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver thee."

2nd Prayer is one of the essential exercises of the christian life True piety commences with prayer. Prayer is both the breath and the language of the new nature.

3rd We should pray because it tends to our own spiritual improvement. It will soften our hearts, awaken the tender emotions of sympathy, produce benovelent desires and make us more generous and useful.

4th We should pray because it will increase our conformity to Christ. What a model we have in Christ! How He loved and labored and prayed! Christianity is Christ's mind in us. Hence we should pray often—have that near access to God that is found alone in prayer. We should pray in secret. We should pray around the family altar. And we should pray in the great congregation. It is desirable that each church meet in a well arranged prayer service as often as possible.

J. W. Rogers, Chairman.

Adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:30 o'clock p. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional exercises was called to order.

REPORT ON ORPHANS HOME.

The Baptist Widows and Orphans Home is located at Evergreen in the southern part of this state in a very healthful and beautiful locality. The building is a large structure made of brick with ten rooms and some out-buildings, and walls containing about 20,000 bricks which can be utilized in such extensions to the main building as may be hereafter decided upon. There are eighty acres of land adjacent to the buildings belonging to the Orphanage. After securing good homes in private families for several of the children there are yet at the Orphanage thirty-one of these little unfortunates.

Taking into consideration that these children were picked up here and there, as they were left in destitution from various causes, it is remarkable how teachable, smart and bright they are. As far as practical, these children attend literature and Sunday Schools; also family and church worship. The home is much in need of additional rooms, especially a commodious kitchen and dining room. Your committee recommend that all our churches take regular collections for this institution, which is dependent entirely upon charity for its daily bread and raiment. There are two ways of disposing of the children, to-wit: apprenticeship and adoption. These orphans must be clothed and fed and they are entirely dependent upon the Baptists to do it. Now let the North River Association come up with her part of the expenses. We have already sent seven children to the Orphanage. One of them has been adopted by a wealthy Baptist of Huntsville, Alabama. Bro. J. W. Stewart, the faithful Financial Secretary, will give any information you may desire.

L. H. Baker, Chairman.

Then a collection was taken for the Orphans Home. Amounted to $11.00.

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

We, your committee on aged and infirm ministers, report as follows: We know of only two in the bounds of this Association, to-wit: Our beloved brothers L. B. Harbin and L. A. Smith, who have worn themselves out in the cause of God in this Association, and are now dependent to such an extent as to call forth the great sympathy and support of all our churches. Now we recommend that a collection be taken immediately after the reading of this report for their relief and that it be equally divided between them. Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Sumner, }
J. P. Mooney, } Committee.

Then a collection was taken for our brethren named in above report amounting to $26.80.

Amount for L. B. Harbin, including contributions by individuals, $25.90.

Amount for L. A. Smith, including individual contributions, $13.85.

On motion J. P. Mooney and L. P. Kiker were appointed to take charge of the collection for L. A. Smith and see that it be spent for his support.

Treasurer's report read and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance on hand from last year	$ 3 25	
Received for Minutes	28 20	
" " Association purposes	12 60	
" " Home Missions	75	
" " Foreign Missions	1 00	
" " Orphans Home	9 50	
" " L. B. Harbin	18 68	
Total receipts	$73 90	
Paid Home Missions		$ 75
" Foreign Missions		1 00
" Orphans Home		9 50
" L. B. Harbin		18 68
" for printing Minutes		28 00
" Clerk		12 60
" for paper and postage		1 95
		$72 48
Balance on hand		1 50

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. Watts, Treasurer.

Appointed J. S. Watts, Treasurer, for ensuing year.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS AND REQUESTS.

We, the committee on documents, report that there are no documents filed with the Clerk requiring our attention, except the letter from Jasper church inviting the Association to meet with her next year, which request we recommend to the favorable consideration of the Association.

H. L. Watlington, Chairman.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee on nominations, report as follows: To preach the Introductory Sermon, R. A. Baker; alternate, J. R. Sartain. To preach Sunday at 11 o'clock, to be supplied.

Delegates to the State Convention: G. D. O'Rear, R. M. Hunter, J. R. Sartain, W. B. Appling, R. A. Baker and J. H. McGuire. Alternates: S. Lacy, H. L. Watlington, S. W. Vice, L. A. Morris.

J. S. Watts and J. T. Morris. Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention: James Hilton; W. B. Appling, alternate. The next session of this Asssociation will be held at Jasper, Ala.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. Appling, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your committee on Finance report as follows:

Received for	State Missions	$ 4 41	
"	" Foreign Missions	30	
"	" Minutes	17 00	
"	" Associational purposes	8 15	
"	" Orphans Home	2 40	
"	" Aged and infirm ministers	25	— $32 51

CREDITS.

Paid	Bro. L. B Harbin	$ 25	
"	Executive Committee	4 41	
"	J. S. Watts, Foreign Missions	30	
"	" for Orphanage	2 40	
"	" " Minutes	17 00	
"	" " Associational purposes	8 15	— $32 51

Respectfully submitted,

G. D. O'Rear, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, your Executive committee, beg to submit the following report:

By order of the Association, when in its last session, we employed Bro. James Hilton to do missionary work in the bounds of our Association, and we have collected and paid him as follows:

1894.

Sept 24	cash	received	L. B. Harbin	$ 1 00	
" "	"	"	Mt Zion	5 00	
Oct 4	"	"	Mrs. Bennett	25	
" 13	"	"	J. H. Stephenson	2 00	
Nov 12	"	"	Jasper Baptist Church	8 89	
" "	"	"	" " " for '93-'94	20 00	

1895.

Sept 3	cash	received	Samaria Baptist Church	3 60	
" 23	"	"	Finance committee	4 41	
" 22	"	"	Sunday collections	76 10	— 121 25

1894.

Sept 25	cash	paid out,	James Hilton	$ 6 00	
Oct 18	"	"	" " "	2 25	
Nov 12	"	"	" " "	28 89	
Sept 23	"	"	" " "	84 11	— 121 25

Balance due	Jas. Hilton	on	last Asso. year	$118 08	
Am't	"	"	" present Asso. year	300 00	— 418 08

Sept 23 to Sunday payments	$121 25	
" " " amount collected on field	131 52	
" " " pastoral services Pleasant G. C	30 00	— 282 77
Balance due		$135 31
		118 08
		$17 23

J. F. Appling, Chairman.

The Moderator announced standing committees to-wit:

On Sunday Schools: J H McGuire, N H Harbin and J G Jones.

On Temperance: S Lacy, H G Amerson and L P Kiker.

On State Missions: James Hilton, R M Rice and R A Baker.

On Home Missions: L A Morris, W T Rutledge and E S Carden.

On Foreign Missions: J R Sartain, W R Randolph and E L Brown.

On Denominational Education: H L Watlington, J J Phifer and L H Baker.

On Religious Literature: C C Kelley, Clanton Manasco and John A Douglas.

On Prayer and Prayer-meetings: J W Rogers, J L Leonard and D A Kemp.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers: W T Rutledge, Eli Hyche and J P Mooney.

On Orphans Home: L B Harbin, J A Sumner and John Stephenson.

Executive Committee: J F Appling, G D O'Rear, D J Files, D H Clifton and S W Vice.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

The following resolution was read and adopted.

Whereas, the delegates of the churches forming the North River Association have heard with great satisfaction that our denomination can obtain a grant of land and building suitable for school purposes near Eldridge, Ala., and whereas we feel the great necessity of a high school for our people of moderate means:

Be it resolved; that this Association do heartily endorse the plan of having this denominational school established and conducted by Baptists.

Be it further resolved; that this Association do hereby appoint a committee of three to visit and consult with each of the following Associations: Harmony Grove, New River and other Associations they may see fit to visit, with a view to bringing this matter before them to solicit their co-operation.

Be it further resolved; that this Association do appoint a standing committee of three on education for the purpose, among other things, of taking this matter under control with full power and authority to solicit subscriptions, incorporate the school, to

obtain titles to the property and to do all things necessary to establish said school, who shall report their actions at the next session of this Association.

Thereupon the Moderator appointed the following named committee:

Committee to visit Harmony Grove Asssociation, viz: J R Sartain, G D O'Rear and R L Francis.

Committee to visit New River Association, viz: J H McGuire, James S Watts and R A Baker.

Committee to visit Clear Creek Association, viz: James Hilton, J A Huggins and L A Morris.

Committee on Education, viz: C C Kelley, H L Watlington and W G Davis.

Committee to visit Yellow Creek Association, viz: S Lacy, C C Kelley and L C Kelley.

REPORT OF JAMES HILTON, MISSIONARY.

Dear Brethren, according to your own decree I have labored for you another year and done the best I could. Here are the results:

Sermons preached 182; exhortations delivered 150; prayers 283; prayer-meetings attended, 60; Sunday Schools organized, 4; Sunday School addresses, 55; families visited, 280; churches visited, 43; deacons ordained, 6; burials attended, 2; baptised, 15; received by letter, 7; visited the Clear Creek Association as correspondent; traveled 1890 miles.

Received from churches	$127 77	
" " individuals	10 75	— 138 52
Balance on last year	118 08	
Salary this year	300 00	— 418 08
Credit		$282 76
Balance due	$135 31	

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES HILTON, Missionary.

On motion it was ordered that the Association take pledges from the churches to pay Bro. James Hilton by the first of January 1896, to be sent to Executive Committee.

LIST OF CHURCHES PLEDGING AND AMOUNTS.

Bethabara, paid	$ 2 00	Townley	$ 5 00
Bethpage	1 00	Union	2 00
Jasper	27 00	J L Leonard, paid	1 00
R A Baker, paid	2 00	Mt Carmel	10 00
J P Mooney	1 00	J R Sartain, paid	25
Oakman	5 00	A Kilgore, paid	5 00
Pleasant Grove	5 00	Oregonia	5 00
Parish	2 00	W R Randolph	1 00
R M Rice	1 00	Mt Joy	5 00
J B Sherer	1 00	G D O'Rear, paid	5 00
Total			$86 25

The following resolutions were read and adopted:

Resolved, that we tender our thanks to Samaria church and community for their kind hospitality shown the delegates of this Association during this session. J H McGuire.

Resolved, that the Clerk of this Association have as many Minutes printed as he can with the Minute Fund and that he have the same printed where he can get the most Minutes for the money, and that he have the balance left over from last year and the Associational fund for his compensation as Clerk.

S. Lacy.

Resolved, that the preachers of this Association go home to their people and go to preaching the tithing system as the bible plan of missions to them, if they think that the plan.

R. A. Baker.

On motion reading the Minutes was dispensed with, except roll call, and absentees stricken from the list.

After singing "God Be With You," and taking parting hand, the Association adjourned to meet with Jasper church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September 1896. W. B. APPLING, Moderator.

J. S. Watts, Clerk.

The Third Annual Session of the North River Baptist Sunday School Convention convened with Providence church on Friday, the 26th day of July, 1895. The next session to be held with Bethlehem church, Tuscaloosa county, Ala., on Friday before the fourth Sunday in July 1896. Wm. JONES, Moderator.

Jas. Hilton, Clerk.

TO THE CHURCHES.

Dear Brethren, the Minutes are abridged on account of means to have them printed in full. I hope all the churches will be represented next year and send means sufficient to have Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum printed in the Minutes.

The delay of the Minutes is due to the protracted sickness and death of my wife. J. S. Watts, Clerk.

STATISTICS OF THE NORTH RIVER ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERKS PO	Inc. by			Dec by			Present Membership	Minute Fund	Associat'nl Fund	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Pator's Salary	Infirm Ministers	Minister'l Education	Other Church Expenses	Orphan's Home	Preaching Sabbaths
				Baptism	Letter	Restored	Letter	Exclusion	Death												
Bethabara	A Kilgore	T N Harbin	Berry Sta	2	4	2	2	..	1	33	50	15	6 00	....	....	6 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Bethlehem	J L Collins	J W Popwell	Berry Sta	6	5	..	10	6	..	67	1 00	50	11 00	....	....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Bethel	not	represented																			
Berry Station	not	represented																			
Bethpage	J W Rogers	S S Bowser	Jasper		6	..	5	1	..	25	25	50	.....	....	....	5 50	....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carbon Hill	not	represented																			
Coal City	not	represented																			
Jasper	R M Hunter	Sheriff Lacy	Jasper	14	10	..	7	..	3	206	3 00	2 00	59 84	5 62	5 62	455 17	20 00	25 00	292 84	23 75	1234
Lebanon	not	represented																			
Liberty Grove	not	represented																			
Liberty	not	represented																			
Mt. Zion	.....	N Thacker	Patton	..	..	..	..	..	1	58	55	....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Mt. Joy	W G Baker	H G Amerson	Toledo	3	1	..	9	..	1	52	55	....	3 33	..	....	11 00	.....	.....	35 00	2 00	3
Mt. Carmel	J W Rogers	A M Douglas	Cordova	..	..	..	8	8	1	53	75	....	48	....	....	37 08	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
New Hope	J T Jones	A B Clements	Oregonia	3	..	..	..	..	..	57	75	75	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
New Prospect	W T Rutledge	W M Sherer	Jasper	3	7	..	5	3	1	81	65	....	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Oakman	J E Banard	J S Watts	Oakman	5	23	..	6	..	..	83	1 00	1 00	12 83	1 26	2 15	115 92	.....	1 35	139 14	12 10	4
Oregonia	S E Hodge	R L Baker	Oregonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	65	....	6 21	....	30	.....	25	.....	.....	40	....
Pleasant Grove	James Hilton	A S Sparks	Lost Cre'k	8	1	1	1	3	1	191	1 20	50	17 85	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Providence	J R Sartain	W M Watts	Oakman	..	..	2	..	..	1	102	1 25	50	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Pleasant Field	J R Sartain	J T Grace	Oakman	2	2	..	..	..	..	38	50	50	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Parish	A Kilgore	J H Robinson	Parish	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	25	25	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Samaria	C C Collins	R F Sumner	Jasper	2	2	..	1	1	..	100	1 50	1 30	8 27	....	....	56 55	.....	.....	.....	56	....
Salem	not	represented																			
Spring Hill	R Ballinger	Rob't Downey	Galoway	11	14	..	..	..	..	19	60	20	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Townley	L A Morris	T L Fike	Townley	1	..	..	2	..	1	65	75	....	2 50	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Union Grove	J T Jones	S Willcutt	Oregonia	3	2	..	1	..	..	44	75	....	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Union	.....	A Crocker		2	1	..	2	2	..	21	50	....	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
Zion	not	represented																			
.....	W R Randolph										05										
				65	68	5	59	24	10	1381	17 00	18 15	127 33	6 88	8 07	711 62	20 25	26 35	466 98	37 21	